

Middletown Commission on the Arts

Minutes, March 27, 2013

Present

Cassandra Day (vice-chair)
Fran Ganguli
Franca Biales
Richard Kamins
Joyce Kirkpatrick
Lea Tomaszewski

Also Present

Stephan Allison, staff
Eva Dykas (Art Guild
of Middletown)

Absent

Lee Godburn (chair)
Jenny Hawkins Lecce (sec.)
Charlotte McCoid
Barbara Arafeh
Robert Santangelo (council)
Linda Salafia (council)
Hannah Breton (student rep)
Chelsea Rak (student rep)
Lauren Hodge (student rep)

Call to order

Commission Vice-Chair Cassandra Day called the meeting to order at 7:24 p.m. in the City Arts Office at 100 Riverview Center – Suite 140

Public session: Eva Dykas from The Art Guild of Middletown was in attendance

Minutes from February 27, 2013

Motion to approve by Commissioner Richard Kamins, seconded by Commissioner Joyce Kirkpatrick.
Discussion: none. Passed with one abstention: Commissioner Fran Ganguli.

Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the meeting agenda as written, by Commissioner Joyce Kirkpatrick; seconded by Commissioner Richard Kamins; carried unanimously.

Remarks from the Chair

Cassandra reminded all of April 9th Arts Advocacy Day Awards in City Hall and encouraged all to become art advocates throughout the year. Reminded all to attend Art for Haiti exhibit by Pierre Silvain June 6-19 at Wesleyan's Zilkha Gallery.

Old Business:

Budget Report – Electronically distributed and reviewed.

Program Update

Arts Stakeholders Group:

- a) Middletown Remix Committee Meeting April 2, 2013 @5:00 at Nora Cupcake
- b) Arts & Creative Industries Council (Chamber of Commerce): no report

Website – Arts2Go.org More organizations are getting involved. Traffic is up. An ad has been placed in the Ct Visitors Guide.

Budget: 2013 – 2014 ongoing. The Mayor, in showing his continued support for the arts in Middletown, will not be taking 10% off MCA budget.

Committee Reports:

Public Art Committee:

- a) Public Art Collection: ongoing.

- b) MCAAAA 2013 – no report
- c) Display Case Dedication: case will be dedicated to Patricia Evans April 9 in City Hall.

Planning & Projects Committee:

- a) 40th Anniversary to be combined with Arts Advocacy Day, April 9.
- b) Arts Advocacy Day – April 9th, Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall. Commissioners should arrive by 5:15. Recipients of award: Carolyn Kirsch and the Community Foundation of Middlesex County. There will be self-guided tours of the City Art Collection.

Nominating Committee:

- a) Review of Bylaws: no report
- b) Nomination suggestions: ongoing. Nominations have been passed to the Mayor. MCA will need a chair, vice chair and secretary.

Other: (Publicity Committee, Kids Arts Committee, Archive Committee)

The Publicity Committee has sent out a press release on Art Advocacy Day.

Kids Arts' registration is going well. Many counselors are coming back. There is a new bid going out for bussing. Getting ready for a good year and encouraging participants from other towns also.

New Business:

Grant Panel selection for Cat. 2&3 March applications. Barbara, Fran, Charlotte, and Franca

Grant Review Process: Need to create subcommittee to review the process. Joyce has volunteered to review the current process. Looking for input also from users of grant application.

Other: none

Miscellaneous:

Grant Report Reviews: NEAR, Inc. Kids Arts 2012

Announcements: Unearthing Community- Archeology of the Beman Triangle-April 4, 2013 @ 5:30 , Gen. Joseph Mansfield House.

-Letter from Italy 1944, April 28 @ MHS 4:00 pm

-Lecture on 10th Mountain Division rescheduled, Community Health Center April 8 at 7:00 pm

-Armida Espaillat is a local artist of high caliber who works and lives in Middletown. You are encouraged to see and support her work. She has been struggling to remain in Middletown as she finds it difficult to support the life of an artist in the City. She is launching a new business in interior decorating and has just graduated from the Side Street to Main Street program (Chamber of Commerce).

-Carolyn Kirsch- Driving Miss Daisy- exploring Black and Jewish relationships, June 2 at Adath Israel

-Art Guild of Middletown will have its annual juried art exhibit at the Zilkha Gallery, June 17-23, 2013

Adjournment: Commissioner Kamins moved to adjourn at 8:37 p.m., seconded by Commissioner Ganguli. Carried. The MCA will next meet for its regular monthly meeting on April 24, 2013, Room 208, Municipal Building, 245 Dekoven Drive at 7 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Franca Biales